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Revelations about dump site spur developer to dump plan

CUMBERLAND — A request by a Pawtucket builder to rezone a six-acre area located on Curran Road for duplexes was withdrawn from the agenda at Wednesday's Town Council meeting.

The lawyer for Marcel Trepanier, Victoria Almeida, said her client rescinded the request after learning that toxic waste may be buried on the land.

Officials from the federal Environmental Protection Agency and the state Department of Environmental Management investigated the site five years ago but it has not been declared a national Superfund site, eligible for federal dollars to clean it up.

Since the investigation, the site has been added to a list of about 80 sites in the state

cited for further study.

State officials refer to the land, a former Cumberland dump, as the Samuel Boulter Farm. It is located next to Joe's Recycling and behind Courtois Sand and Gravel of Massachusetts.

Natives call the site Boulter's Dump. Boulter's operated a solid waste landfill there until a 1975 order closed it down.

The six-acre section Marcel Trepanier of Pawtucket wanted to develop is comprised of three long lots owned by LM Nursing Service of Pawtucket. President of the Pawtucket firm, Marie Issa, said she bought the land for investment purposes and had no idea it may contain toxic waste.